

## PRESS RELEASE

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### SA SA BASSAC opens *Untitled* by Khvay Samnang



Khvay Samnang, *Untitled*, 2011, Digital C-Print

PHNOM PENH – SA SA BASSAC is pleased to announce the opening of *Untitled* by Khvay Samnang.

He saw people dismantling a house built above water. He asked them if the water was deep. They replied, “Yes.” He began swimming in the water. One person warned him that the water was not clean. He swam to a wooden post. He connected a length of wire to the post and around his body. His body hung from the wire. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He watched a family carrying pieces of their house. He swam to a wooden post. He connected a length of wire to the post and around his body. His body hung from the wire. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He went to an area of water that had many houses. He saw names and addresses written above the doorways. He entered the water and noticed the residents watching him. One person asked him if he was an actor making a film. He replied, “I am making art.” In the water, he found a piece of wood to sit on. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He saw a lot of garbage floating in the water. He began swimming in the water and garbage in search of a secure place to stand. He found a piece of wood below the water, where he stood. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He noticed water flooding many houses. He hired a young boy to paddle a boat towards one of the flooded houses. He entered the water in search of a secure place to support his weight. He found a shelf attached to a wooden post. He stood on the shelf. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He noticed a small area of water where there was once a big area of water. In the distance, he saw sand and machines. He walked through the grasses, whose blades cut his body. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He saw dense plant life on the water. In the distance he saw a cluster of buildings. People told him, "The water is very deep." People also told him, "The apartments are mostly empty." He found two pieces of wood and placed them on top of the plants. He stood on the wood. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He saw a pattern of plant life on the water. In the distance, he saw sand. He walked into the shallow water. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

He saw sand where there was once water. He walked on the sand and into the grasses. He poured a bucket of sand over his head.

### **About the Artist**

Subtly and often with humor, Khvay Samnang reflects on various aspects of Cambodian society in order to pose questions of their affects and relevance today. Khvay (b. Svay Rieng, 1982) holds a BA in Fine Arts in Painting from the Royal University of Fine Arts, Phnom Penh (2006). His work has been widely exhibited in Cambodia and international exhibitions include *Arles Photo Festival Night of the Year*, France (2008, 2011), *Forever Until Now*, 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong (2009), *Tokyo 2010*, Tokyo Wonder Site Hongo (2011). He was a resident at Tokyo Wonder Site Aoyama (2010).

### **About SA SA BASSAC**

SA SA BASSAC is a gallery and resource center dedicated to creating, facilitating, producing, and sharing contemporary visual culture in and from Cambodia.

### **Exhibition Details**

Exhibition:	<i>Untitled</i> , by Khvay Samnang
Opening:	Friday 15 July, 6:00-8:00PM
Dates:	15 July - 21 August 2011
Opening Hours:	Thu-Fri-Sat 2-6pm / Sun 10am-6pm + by appointment
Location:	#18 2nd Floor, Sothearos Blvd, Phnom Penh
Website:	<a href="http://www.sasabassac.com">www.sasabassac.com</a>

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